

## EDAR LODGE NO. 211

Edar Lodge No. 211, I. O. B. B. is one of the oldest Lodges in the District Grand Lodge Number Seven. It was established about 1873 and had



SYLVAN LANG

and still has some of the best Jews in San Antonio as its members. Such pioneer Jews as Dan and Anton Oppenheimer, Sol and Mayer Halff, Morris Friedman, Saul Wolfson and others, are some of its charter members, and at some time every prominent Jew in San Antonio has been a member of it. In points of number having about three hundred, and activities it is one of the most influential Lodges in the District. It has furnished two Grand Presidents of the District, Brother S. C. Eldrige, who is also the originator of B'nai B'rith Day and Brother J. M. Oppenheimer; Brother L. N. Lee, is now a member of the General Committee.

The past year has been one of unusual activities. The membership has been greatly increased and splendid and well attended meetings are held.

A short time ago a class of sixty was initiated and a class of about forty or more will soon be initiated. Edar Lodge has never failed to cele-



SELIG DEUTSCHMAN

brate B'nai B'rith Day, and this year's celebration was a splendid success, having in attendance Brother Rabbi William Fineshriber of Memphis, Tennessee, Grand President;

Victor H. Hexter of Dallas, Texas, Second Vice-President; S. J. Westheimer of Houston, Texas; Brother H. G. Gootman of Chattanooga, Tennessee and others.

The Lodge also had a splendid meeting for the Anti-Defamation League, addressed by Brother Rabbi Henry Cohen of Galveston, Texas, whose efforts were ably supplemented by our Second Grand Vice-President, S. J. Westheimer. A collection of about two thousand dollars was made for the Anti-Defamation League.

The present officers of the Lodge are splendid type of the young American Jews.

Monitor, Brother Sulvan Lang, who achieved the position of Major in the last war. President, Joe Rubin, also a soldier in the late war, a bright popular and successful insurance man, whose popularity is attested in the community by the high respect shown by his brother Kiwanians. His love and zeal for our order is 100 per cent. Vice-President P. Saslosky, an experienced accountant, holding responsible positions in the community. His activities and love for the order is no less pronounced than the other splendid officers. The "Backbone" of Edar Lodge is its financial secretary,



RAABBI SAM MARX  
Rabbi Emeritus Temple Beth-El.

Brother John Kemp, who keeps the exchequer well filled and strongly guarded against any wrongful use of it.

Above all the great secret of Edar Lodge's success is its broad Democratic brotherly feeling established and which prevails throughout its membership, having only one central thought and that is to carry out its principles so the Jews and mankind may be benefited by its activities.

The lodge has always sought the membership of Jews in the neighboring cities, and during the month of January of this year a session of the Lodge at Lockhart, Texas, and initiated about twenty into the Lodge. The initiation was followed by an entertainment given by the Lockhart brethren under the direction of Brother A. Weinbaum and L. Schwartz and others and was a memorable occasion in the life of the Lodge.

## AN EPISTLE TO THE GENTILES.

Rabbi Harry A. Werfield, Temple B'nai Israel, Monroe, La.

In the opening chapter of the Book of Jeremiah, one of the most memo-

rable passages of ancient scriptures, we read of the call of one of Israel's greatest prophets, the "The Man of Sorrows" of the Old Testament.

## The Prophet's Visions

The writer reports that he learned that even before his birth he had been destined to fill the roll of a prophet, whose duty and privilege it was to go forth and speak to the nations in the name of the Eternal. Overpowered by a sense of his great responsibility, he modestly answered in reply to this call, "Oh, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak; for I am a child." Comforting, consoling, and compelling, was the reply he received, "Say not, I am a child . . . for I have set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, and to build, and to plant." While in prophetic mood a vision appeared a little later, before the mind's eye of this gifted, fearless, suffering son of Israel. Scripture tells how he saw a rod of an almond tree, a vision interpreted to mean that that which he was about to speak in the name of God would soon happen. Again the Sacred Writings tell us, in the same opening verses of the Book of Jeremiah, that there was another vision



JOE RUBIN  
President Edar Lodge No. 211  
I. O. B. B.

before his mind's eye. "I see," says Scripture, "a seething pot."

## The Seething Pot

In respect of weakness and inability to properly express myself I feel in presence of the grave task I have set myself, like my exalted master and guide, the prophet Jeremiah. I, too, see at this moment, an almond tree in blossom, for that which I have to say must soon come to pass. I, too, see a pot seething. Bubbling, seething, boiling in this pot I see, among other things, the religious tendencies of our times. I see therein the results of breaking away from the old, ere yet attachment has been formed for the new thought. I see the consequences of the grave doubts of men concerning the veracity of the traditions which have come down to us during the long ages of human endeavor. I see therein the effects of twenty hundred years of erroneous teaching of many in authority, and I can also observe the fruit of the patient search after truth conducted by those who have loved it more than life.

## Modern Unrest

Expressive of the restless condition portrayed by this seething pot, we hear every day concerning of new

"isms and ologies" and of an ever changing concerning the old. For fifty years men have been under the powerful sway of scientific materialism. Such teachers as Spencer, Darwin, Huxley, Tyndall, Owen (to name



H. L. HALFF

a few of those who appealed specially to the English-speaking world), have given materialistic interpretations of life, of the human soul, of human destiny. For fifty years men have been crying, "Eureka!" We have discovered the meaning of human progress, of human aspiration. Man is of the earth earthy! Outside of matter there is nothing. As protest, more than anything else, we observe a re-erudescence of mediaeval mysticism which is spreading with great rapidity among thoughtless people, and among many whom we must judge to be thoughtful. In the seething mass I see the results of the teachings of spiritualism, of mental healings, and of many fads, nonsensical schemes and foolish notions. Here is the pot bubbling! Out of it something is to come that will be for good or evil. I pray that whatever be the tendency given to religious life, it may rebound to the glory of God and for the good of man. But of this I am convinced, that were people to listen to the message of the



DR. G. FEIGENBAUM  
Rabbi Agudath Achim Congregation

Prophets of Israel, it would be well for the world.

## Israel's Purpose

When our great master, Moses, led the children of Israel from Egypt, he